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## Problems faced by the chickpea growers in adoption of recommended chickpea production technology

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**Abstract**

Chickpea is one of the most important legume crops of Gujarat state. However, it was observed wide gap in between existing yield and potential yield in to the chickpea production. Looking to the importance of the problem, a study was conducted in Junagadh district of Gujarat State to find out major constraints faced by the chickpea growers in adoption of recommended chickpea production technology. Four talukas; Maliya, Keshod, Mendarda and Junagadh of Junagadh district were purposively selected for the research. Total three villages were randomly selected from each selected taluka and 10 farmers were randomly selected from each village. Thus, total sample size was 120 farmers. In this investigation, it was observed that majority of the chickpea growers faced the constraint about high cost of farm inputs (1.83 mean score), followed by non-availability of appropriate market price on farm produce (1.70 mean score), low production due to pest and disease infestations (1.58 mean score), high cost of labor (1.48 mean score), and lack of proper knowledge about improved varieties (1.35 mean score).

**Keywords:** Chickpea growers, chickpea production technology, adoption, constraints

**Introduction**

In the process of agricultural development, new farming technology can be considered as the prime mover. The benefits of such technology are actually derived only when it is efficiently utilized by the individual farmers in their local situations. But only a small percentage of new technologies have been adopted by the farmers. As a result of that, wide gap between existing yield and potential yield can be seen. Chickpea is an important and unique food legume crop because of its economic as well as health related importance. In the production of chickpea, the yield of chickpea was 1253 kg/ha in Gujarat in year 2017-18 (Anon., 2018a) <sup>[1]</sup> which was much lower than the average of the yields (1700 kg/ha for rain fed chickpea and 2450 kg/ha for irrigated chickpea) obtained from various varieties at demonstration plot and research station (Anon., 2018b) <sup>[2]</sup>. This might be due chickpea growers' low level of adoption of improved production technology. As a matter of the fact, chickpea growers have certain limitations or problems which hinder them in adoption of innovations. In order to raise the level of adoption of chickpea growers, it is necessary to identify the important reasons which make them partial or non-adopters of improved production technology. Looking to the importance and urgency of the problem, a study was carried out to know the constraints or problems faced by the chickpea growers in adoption of recommended chickpea production technology.

**Objectives**

To study the constraints faced by the chickpea growers in adoption of recommended chickpea production technology

**Methodology**

The study was conducted in Junagadh district of Gujarat state in year 2019. Junagadh district is one of the leading chickpea growing districts of South Saurashtra Agro-climatic zone of Gujarat State. Out of 9 talukas of Junagadh district, 4 talukas viz. Maliya, Keshod, Mendarda and Junagadh were selected purposively for the study due to favorable area of production for chickpea crop and familiar area for researcher. Three villages were selected randomly from the each selected talukas. Thus, total 12 villages were selected for the study. A random sampling procedure was followed for the selection of the respondents and accordingly ten chickpea growers from each village were selected as respondents. Thus, 120 chickpea growers were selected for the study. The data were collected with the help of well structured, pre-tested

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schedule through personal contact. The chickpea growers were asked to give their responses regarding the constraints on 3 point rating scale. On that basis, mean scores were calculated for individual constraint. Overall ranks were assigned on the basis of mean scores. Similar procedures were also followed by Markana *et al.* (2015) [4], Umretiya (2015)

[6], Lohare (2017) [3] and Raviya (2017) [5] for getting appropriate conclusion.

### Results and Discussion

The results in table 1 indicate the constraints faced by the chickpea growers in adoption of recommended chickpea production technology.

**Table 1:** Constraints faced by the chickpea growers in adoption of recommended chickpea production technology, (n = 120)

Sr. no.	Constraints	Mean score	Rank
1.	High cost of farm inputs	1.83	I
2.	Non availability of appropriate market price on farm produce	1.70	II
3.	Low production due to pest and disease infestations	1.58	III
4.	High cost of labor	1.48	IV
5.	Lack of proper knowledge about improved varieties	1.35	V
6.	Destruction of seedbed by hazardous animals	1.27	VI
7.	Lack of knowledge about bio-fertilizers	1.18	VII
8.	Lack of constant availability of electricity at the time of irrigating crops	1.03	VIII
9.	Lack of knowledge about soil properties	0.97	IX
10.	Lack of knowledge about M.S.P. (minimum support price)	0.85	X
11.	Higher transportation cost	0.77	XI
12.	Shortage of storage facilities	0.65	XII

On the basis of table 1, it can be seen that major constraints faced by the chickpea growers were; high cost of farm inputs (1.83 mean score) which got rank 1<sup>st</sup>, followed by non-availability of appropriate market price on farm produce (1.70 mean score) and low production due to pest and disease infestations (1.58 mean score) which got rank 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, respectively. Other constraints faced by chickpea growers from rank 4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> were; high cost of labour (1.48 mean score), lack of proper knowledge about improved varieties (1.35 mean score), destruction of seedbed by hazardous animals (1.27 mean score), lack of knowledge about bio-fertilizers (1.18 mean score), lack of constant availability of electricity at the time of irrigating crops (1.03 mean score), lack of knowledge about soil properties (0.97 mean score), lack of knowledge about M.S.P. (minimum support price) (0.85 mean score), high transportation cost (0.77 mean score) and shortage of storage facilities (0.65 mean score), respectively.

### Conclusion

On the basis of above mentioned finding, it can be concluded that majority of chickpea growers faced the constraints of high cost of farm inputs, non-availability of appropriate market price on farm produces, low production due to pest and disease infestations, high cost of labor, lack of proper knowledge about improved varieties and destruction of seedbed by hazardous animals. While the constraints like lack of knowledge about soil properties, lack of knowledge about M.S.P. (minimum support price), higher transportation cost and shortage of storage facilities were faced by less number of chickpea growers.

### Implication

1. The study will serve as a guideline for the planners and extension agencies for planning and implementing various policies on chickpea crop as well as similar pulse crops' production in that area.
2. The study will work as review for the various researchers and enlightening the path in doing similar kind of work.

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